LCO No. 6314

AN ACT CONCERNING SPECIAL EDUCATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) On and after the effective date of this
- 2 section, the Department of Education shall not include any federal funds
- 3 received by a local or regional board of education pursuant to the
- 4 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, P.L. 116-136, as
- 5 amended from time to time, the Coronavirus Response and Relief
- 6 Supplemental Appropriations Act, P.L. 116-260, as amended from time
- 7 to time, and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, as
- 8 amended from time to time, in the calculation of such board's net current
- 9 expenditures per pupil for purposes of determining the amount of the
- 10 grant paid by the State Board of Education to such board under section
- 11 10-76g of the general statutes.
- 12 Sec. 2. Section 10-4w of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 13 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):
- 14 (a) As used in this section:
- 15 (1) "Remote learning" means instruction by means of one or more
- 16 Internet-based software platforms as part of a remote learning model;
- 17 and
- 18 (2) "Dual instruction" means the simultaneous instruction by a
- 19 teacher to students in-person in the classroom and students engaged in

20 remote learning.

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(b) Not later than January 1, 2022, the Commissioner of Education shall develop, and update as necessary, standards for remote learning.

(c) For the school years commencing July 1, 2022, and July 1, 2023, a local or regional board of education may authorize remote learning to students in grades nine to twelve, inclusive, provided such board (1) provides such instruction in compliance with the standards developed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, (2) adopts a policy regarding the requirements for student attendance during remote learning, which shall (A) be in compliance with the Department of Education's guidance on student attendance during remote learning, and (B) count the attendance of any student who spends not less than one-half of the school day during such instruction engaged in (i) virtual classes, (ii) virtual meetings, (iii) activities on time-logged electronic systems, and (iv) the completion and submission of assignments, and (3) prohibits the provision of dual instruction as part of remote learning, unless dual instruction is required in, or necessary to implement, the individualized education program of a student who requires special education and related services or a plan pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended from time to time.

(d) For the school year commencing July 1, 2024, and each school year thereafter, a local or regional board of education may authorize remote learning to students in grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, provided such board (1) provides such instruction in compliance with the standards developed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, (2) adopts a policy regarding the requirements for student attendance during remote learning, which shall (A) be in compliance with the Department of Education's guidance on student attendance during remote learning, and (B) count the attendance of any student who spends not less than one-half of the school day during such instruction engaged in (i) virtual classes, (ii) virtual meetings, (iii) activities on time-logged electronic systems, and (iv) the completion and submission of assignments, and (3) prohibits the provision of dual instruction as part of remote learning, unless dual instruction is required in, or necessary

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- 54 to implement, the individualized education program of a student who
- 55 <u>requires special education and related services or a plan pursuant to</u>
- 56 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended from time to
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- Sec. 3. Section 3 of public act 21-95, as amended by section 3 of public
- 59 act 22-116, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
- 60 (*Effective from passage*):
 - (a) There is established a task force to study issues relating to the provision and funding of special education in the state during the school years commencing July 1, 2016, to July 1, 2020, inclusive. Such study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of (1) the provision of special education and related services, including the provision of services to students identified as gifted and talented, and whether local and regional boards of education are providing such services directly or partnering with regional educational service centers, contracting with a private provider of special education services, as defined in section 10-91g of the general statutes, or as part of a cooperative arrangement pursuant to section 10-158a of the general statutes, (2) the cost of providing special education and related services, including gifted and talented services, the total aggregate amount per school district per year and the annual percentage increase or decrease per school district of such cost, (3) the effect that the cost of special education and gifted and talented services has on a board of education's minimum budget requirement, (4) the level of state reimbursement to boards of education for special education and gifted and talented services, including the total amount for reimbursement submitted by each school district per year and the total amount received by such school district per year, and the percentage increase or decrease per year of the difference of the total amount submitted and the total amount received for each school district, [and] (5) the criteria and manner by which school districts are identifying students who require special education and related services or as gifted and talented, including whether school districts are overidentifying or underidentifying such

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87 students and the causes and reasons for such overidentification and 88 underidentification, (6) the feasibility of authorizing independent 89 evaluators from the Department of Education or hired by the parents 90 and guardians of students receiving special education and related 91 services to observe the provision of such services in the classroom, (7) 92 delaying the age in which a classification category of special education 93 services shall be made for a child requiring special education and related 94 services, (8) special education student-to-teacher ratios prescribed by 95 case load policies, regulations and formulas in effect in other states, with 96 a focus on provisions regarding the numbers of special education 97 students and intensity of services required for such students, and (9) any 98 other issues or topics relating to special education that the task force 99 deems necessary.

(b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

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- 101 (1) Three appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, 102 one of whom is a representative of the Special Education Equity for Kids 103 of Connecticut, one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut 104 Association of Boards of Education and one of whom is the parent or 105 guardian of a student who is enrolled in a public school and receiving 106 special education services;
 - (2) Three appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents, one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut Education Association and one of whom is the parent or guardian of a student who is enrolled in a public school and receiving special education services;
- 113 (3) Two appointed by the majority leader of the House of 114 Representatives, one of whom is a representative of the American 115 Federation of Teachers-Connecticut and one of whom is a representative 116 of the Connecticut Parent Advocacy Center;
- 117 (4) Two appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, one of whom

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- is a representative of the Connecticut Council of Administrators of
- 119 Special Education and one of whom is a representative of the RESC
- 120 Alliance;
- 121 (5) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House of
- Representatives, one of whom is a representative of the Connecticut
- 123 Association of School Administrators and one of whom is a
- representative of the School and State Finance Project;
- 125 (6) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, one of whom
- is a representative of the Connecticut Association of Schools and one of
- whom is a representative of the Connecticut Association of School
- 128 Business Officials; [and]
- 129 (7) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee;
- 130 (8) The chairperson of the Advisory Council for Special Education,
- established pursuant to section 10-76i of the general statutes; and
- 132 (9) A representative of the Connecticut Association of Private Special
- 133 Education Facilities, designated by the association.
- (c) All appointments to the task force shall be made not later than
- thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be
- filled by the appointing authority.
- 137 (d) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
- pro tempore of the Senate shall select the cochairpersons of the task force
- from among the members of the task force. Such cochairpersons shall
- schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later
- than sixty days after the effective date of this section.
- (e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
- 143 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education
- shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.
- (f) Not later than [January] February 1, 2024, the task force shall

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submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or [January] <u>July</u> 1, 2024, whichever is later.

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Sec. 4. Subparagraph (C) of subdivision (10) of subsection (a) of section 10-76d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1*, 2023):

(C) Such parent, guardian, pupil or surrogate parent shall (i) be given at least five school days' prior notice of any planning and placement team meeting conducted for such child or pupil, (ii) have the right to be present at and participate in all portions of such meeting at which an educational program for such child or pupil is developed, reviewed or revised, (iii) have the right to have (I) advisors of such person's own choosing and at such person's own expense, (II) the school paraprofessional assigned to such child or pupil, if any, and (III) such child or pupil's birth-to-three service coordinator, if any, attend and participate in all portions of such meeting at which an educational program for such child or pupil is developed, reviewed or revised, [and] (iv) have the right to have each recommendation made in such child or pupil's birth-to-three individualized transition plan, as required by section 17a-248e, if any, addressed by the planning and placement team during such meeting at which an educational program for such child or pupil is developed, and (v) have the right to have translation services provided (I) by a certified interpreter who is present in person or available by telephone or through an online technology platform, or (II) through an Internet web site or other electronic application, if the primary language of such parent, guardian, pupil or surrogate is a language other than English.

Sec. 5. Subsection (j) of section 10-66bb of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1*,

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178 2023):

- (j) (1) The governing council of a state or local charter school may apply to the State Board of Education for a waiver of the requirements of the enrollment lottery described in subdivision (8) of subsection (d) of this section, provided such state or local charter school has as its primary purpose the establishment of education programs designed to serve one or more of the following populations: (A) Students with a history of behavioral and social difficulties, (B) students identified as requiring special education, (C) students who are English language learners, or (D) students of a single gender.
- (2) An enrollment lottery described in subdivision (8) of subsection (d) of this section shall not be held for a local charter school that is established at a school that is among the schools with a percentage equal to or less than five per cent when all schools are ranked highest to lowest in accountability index scores, as defined in section 10-223e.
- (3) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (1) of this subsection, on and after July 1, 2023, no application for enrollment in a state or local charter school shall inquire or request information about an applicant student's need for or receipt of special education and related services, and the criteria for administering an enrollment lottery for a state or local charter school shall not include consideration of a student's need for or status as requiring special education and related services.
- Sec. 6. Section 10-236b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):
 - (a) For purposes of this section:
 - (1) "Life-threatening physical restraint" means any physical restraint or hold of a person that (A) restricts the flow of air into a person's lungs, whether by chest compression or any other means, or (B) immobilizes or reduces the free movement of a person's arms, legs or head while the person is in the prone position;

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(2) "Psychopharmacologic agent" means any medication that affects the central nervous system, influencing thinking, emotion or behavior;

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- (3) "Physical restraint" means any [mechanical or] personal restriction that immobilizes or reduces the free movement of a person's arms, legs or head, including, but not limited to, carrying or forcibly moving a person from one location to another. The term does not include: (A) Briefly holding a person in order to calm or comfort the person; (B) restraint involving the minimum contact necessary to safely escort a person from one area to another; (C) medical devices, including, but not limited to, supports prescribed by a health care provider to achieve proper body position or balance; (D) helmets or other protective gear used to protect a person from injuries due to a fall; (E) helmets, mitts and similar devices used to prevent self-injury when the device is (i) part of a documented treatment plan or individualized education program pursuant to section 10-76d, as amended by this act, or (ii) prescribed or recommended by a medical professional, as defined in section 38a-976, and is the least restrictive means available to prevent such self-injury; or (F) [an exclusionary] a time out;
- (4) "School employee" has the same meaning as provided in subsection (b) of section 10-2210;
- (5) "Seclusion" means the involuntary confinement of a student in a room from which the student is physically prevented from leaving. "Seclusion" does not include [an exclusionary] <u>a</u> time out;
- (6) "Student" means a child (A) enrolled in grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, in a public school under the jurisdiction of a local or regional board of education, (B) receiving special education and related services in an institution or facility operating under contract with a local or regional board of education pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-76d, (C) enrolled in a program or school administered by a regional education service center established pursuant to section 10-66a, or (D) receiving special education and related services from an approved private special education program, but shall not include any child

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- 240 receiving educational services from (i) Unified School District #2,
- 241 established pursuant to section 17a-37, or (ii) the Department of Mental
- 242 Health and Addiction Services; and

- (7) ["Exclusionary time out" means a temporary, continuously monitored separation of a student from an ongoing activity in a non-locked setting, for the purpose of calming such student or deescalating such student's behavior] "Time out" means a behavior management technique that may involve the separation of the student from the group or classroom in a nonlocked setting.
 - (b) (1) No school employee shall use a physical restraint on a student except as an emergency intervention to prevent immediate or imminent injury to the student or to others, provided the restraint is not used for discipline or convenience and is not used as a substitute for a less restrictive alternative. (2) No school employee shall use a physical restraint that is contraindicated based on a student's disability, health care needs or medical or psychiatric condition. (3) Physical restraint shall not be utilized as a planned intervention in a student's behavioral intervention plan, individualized education program or plan pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended from time to time.
 - (c) No school employee shall use a life-threatening physical restraint on a student. This section shall not be construed as limiting any defense to criminal prosecution for the use of deadly physical force that may be available under sections 53a-18 to 53a-22, inclusive.
 - (d) (1) No school employee shall place a student in seclusion except as an emergency intervention to prevent immediate or imminent injury to the student or to others, provided the seclusion is not used for discipline or convenience and is not used as a substitute for a less restrictive alternative. (2) No student shall be placed in seclusion unless (A) such student is monitored by a school [employee] mental health specialist, as defined in section 12 of public act 22-47, during the period of such student's seclusion pursuant to subsection (m) of this section,

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and (B) the area in which such student is secluded is equipped with a window or other fixture allowing such student a clear line of sight beyond the area of seclusion. (3) Seclusion shall not be utilized as a planned intervention in a student's behavioral intervention plan, individualized education program or plan pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended from time to time.

- (e) No school employee may use a psychopharmacologic agent on a student without that student's consent except [(1) as an emergency intervention to prevent immediate or imminent injury to the student or to others, or (2)] as an integral part of the student's established medical or behavioral support or educational plan, as developed consistent with section 17a-543 or, if no such plan has been developed, as part of a licensed practitioner's initial orders. [The use of psychopharmacologic agents, alone or in combination, may be used only in doses that are therapeutically appropriate and not as a substitute for other appropriate treatment.]
- (f) If any instance of physical restraint or seclusion of a student otherwise permissible under subsection (b) or (d) of this section exceeds fifteen minutes, (1) an administrator, as defined in section 10-144e, or such administrator's designee, (2) a school health or mental health personnel, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10-212b, or (3) a board certified behavioral analyst, who has received training in the use of physical restraint and seclusion pursuant to subsection (o) of this section, shall determine whether continued physical restraint or seclusion is necessary to prevent immediate or imminent injury to the student or to others. Upon a determination that such continued physical restraint or seclusion is necessary, such individual shall make a new determination every thirty minutes thereafter regarding whether such physical restraint or seclusion is necessary to prevent immediate or imminent injury to the student or to others.
- (g) In the event that physical restraint or seclusion is used on a student four or more times within twenty school days:

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(1) An administrator, one or more of such student's teachers, a parent or guardian of such student and, if any, a mental health professional, as defined in section 10-76t, shall convene for the purpose of (A) conducting or revising a behavioral assessment of the student, (B) creating or revising any applicable behavioral intervention plan, and (C) determining whether such student may require special education pursuant to section 10-76ff; or

- (2) If such student is a child requiring special education, as described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (5) of section 10-76a, or a child being evaluated for eligibility for special education pursuant to section 10-76d, as amended by this act, and awaiting a determination, such student's planning and placement team shall convene for the purpose of (A) conducting or revising a behavioral assessment of the student, and (B) creating or revising any applicable behavioral intervention plan, including, but not limited to, such student's individualized education plan.
- (h) (1) Each local or regional board of education shall notify a parent or guardian of a student who is placed in physical restraint, [or] seclusion [not later than twenty-four hours after] or a time out on the day that the student was placed in such physical restraint, [or] seclusion or time out and shall make a reasonable effort to provide such notification immediately after such physical restraint, [or] seclusion or time out is initiated.
- (2) Each local and regional board of education shall meet, in person or through an online technology platform, or have a telephone conversation with the parents or guardians of a student who was placed in physical restraint or seclusion, or who has been placed in a time out three times in the previous thirty days, not later than five days after the student was placed in such physical restraint or seclusion or time outs. The board shall provide such parents or guardians with a detailed summary of the events leading up to and during such physical restraint, seclusion or time outs, including the names of any witnesses of such

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physical restraint, seclusion or time outs, and their accounts of such events, and an explanation of the reasons for the use of such physical restraint, seclusion or time outs.

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- (i) No school employee shall use a physical restraint on a student or place a student in seclusion unless such school employee has received training on the proper means for performing such physical restraint or seclusion pursuant to subsection (o) of this section.
- (j) [(1)] On and after July 1, [2016] 2023, each local or regional board of education, and each institution or facility operating under contract with a local or regional board of education pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-76d that provides special education for children, including any approved private special education program, shall [(A)] (1) record each instance of the use of physical restraint, [or] seclusion or time out on a student, [(B)] (2) specify whether the use of seclusion was in accordance with an individualized education program, [(C)] (3) specify the nature of the emergency that necessitated the use of such physical restraint, [or] seclusion or time out, and [(D)] (4) include such information in an annual compilation on its use of such restraint, [and] seclusion and time out on students. Each local or regional board of education and such institutions or facilities operating under contract with a local or regional board of education pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-76d that provides special education for children, including any approved private special education program shall provide such annual compilation to the Department of Education for the purposes of [the pilot program established pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection to examine] examining incidents of physical restraint, [and] seclusion and time outs in schools and to the State Board of Education for the purposes of subsection (k) of this section. Local or regional boards of education and such institutions and facilities that provide special education for children shall not be required to report instances of in-school suspensions, as defined in subsection (c) of section 10-233a.
 - [(2) The Department of Education shall establish a pilot program for

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the school year commencing July 1, 2015. Such pilot program shall be implemented in various districts, including, but not limited to, an alliance district, a regional school district and a regional education service center. Under the pilot program, the Department of Education shall examine incidents of physical restraint and seclusion in schools and shall compile and analyze data regarding such incidents to enable the department to better understand and respond to incidents of physical restraint and seclusion on students in the state.]

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(k) The State Board of Education shall review the annual compilation of each local or regional board of education, and each institution or facility operating under contract with a local or regional board of education pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-76d that provides special education for children, including any approved private special education program, and shall produce an annual summary report specifying (1) the frequency of use of physical restraint, [or] seclusion or time out on students, (2) whether any student subjected to such restraint, [or] seclusion or time out was a special education student, [and] (3) if any such student was a special education student, whether the use of such seclusion was in accordance with an individualized education program or whether the use of such seclusion was an emergency intervention to prevent immediate or imminent injury to the student or to others, and (4) a disaggregation of the use of physical restraint on various student demographic subgroups. Such report shall be submitted not later than January 15, [2017] 2024, and annually thereafter, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children and education for inclusion in the annual report card prepared pursuant to section 2-53m.

(l) Any use of physical restraint, [or] seclusion or time out on a student shall be documented in the student's educational record. The documentation shall include (1) the nature of the emergency and what other steps, including attempts at verbal deescalation, were taken to prevent the emergency from arising if there were indications that such an emergency was likely to arise, and (2) a detailed description of the

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nature of the restraint, [or] seclusion <u>or time out</u>, the duration of such restraint, [or] seclusion <u>or time out</u> and the effect of such restraint, [or] seclusion <u>or time out</u> on the student's established educational plan.

- (m) Any student who is physically restrained shall be continually monitored by a school employee. Any student who is involuntarily placed in seclusion shall be frequently monitored by a school [employee] mental health specialist, as defined in section 12 of public act 22-47. Each student so restrained or in seclusion shall be regularly evaluated by a school [employee] mental health specialist for indications of physical distress. The school [employee] mental health specialist conducting the evaluation shall enter each evaluation in the student's educational record. For purposes of this subsection, "monitor" means (1) direct observation, or (2) observation by way of video monitoring within physical proximity sufficient to provide aid as may be needed.
- (n) If the use of such restraint, [or] seclusion or time out results in physical injury to the student, the local or regional board of education, and each institution or facility operating under contract with a local or regional board of education pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-76d that provides special education for children, including any approved private special education program, shall report the incident to the State Board of Education, which shall include such incident in the report required pursuant to subsection (k) of this section. The State Board of Education shall report any incidence of serious injury or death to the nonprofit entity designated by the Governor in accordance with section 46a-10b to serve as the Connecticut protection and advocacy system, as required by the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000, 42 USC 15041, et seq., as amended from time to time, and any regulations promulgated thereunder, and as required by the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Act, 42 USC 10801 et seq., as amended from time to time, and any regulations promulgated thereunder, and, if appropriate, to the Child Advocate of the Office of the Child Advocate.

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(o) (1) Each local or regional board of education shall provide training regarding the physical restraint and seclusion of students to the members of the crisis intervention team for each school in the district, identified pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection. A local or regional board of education may provide such training to any teacher, as defined in section 10-144d, administrator, as defined in section 10-144e, school paraprofessional, school mental health specialist, as defined in section 12 of public act 22-47, or other school employee, as defined in section 10-222d, designated by the school principal and who has direct contact with students. Such training shall be provided during the school year commencing July 1, [2017] 2023, and each school year thereafter, and shall include, but not be limited to:

- (A) An overview of the relevant laws and regulations regarding the use of physical restraint and seclusion on students and the proper uses of physical restraint and seclusion. For the school year commencing July 1, [2017] 2023, and annually thereafter, such overview shall be provided by the Department of Education, in a manner and form as prescribed by the Commissioner of Education;
- (B) The creation of a plan by which each local and regional board of education shall provide training regarding the prevention of incidents requiring physical restraint or seclusion of students. Such plan shall be implemented not later than July 1, [2018] 2023. The Department of Education may, within available appropriations, provide ongoing monitoring and support to local or regional boards of education regarding the formulation and implementation of the plan; and
- (C) The creation of a plan by which each local or regional board of education shall provide training regarding the proper means of physical restraint or seclusion of a student, including, but not limited to, (i) various types of physical restraint and seclusion; (ii) the differences between life-threatening physical restraint and other varying levels of physical restraint; (iii) the differences between permissible physical restraint and pain compliance techniques; and (iv) monitoring methods

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to prevent harm to a student who is physically restrained or in seclusion.
Such plan shall be implemented not later than July 1, [2018] 2023;

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- (2) For the school year commencing July 1, 2017, and each school year thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall require each school in the district to identify a crisis intervention team consisting of any teacher, as defined in section 10-144d, administrator, as defined in section 10-144e, school paraprofessional, school mental health specialist, as defined in section 12 of public act 22-47, or other school employee, as defined in section 10-222d, designated by the school principal and who has direct contact with students. Such teams shall respond to any incident in which the use of physical restraint or seclusion may be necessary as an emergency intervention to prevent immediate or imminent injury to a student or to others. Each member of the crisis intervention team shall be recertified in the use of physical restraint and seclusion pursuant to subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of this subsection or chapter 814e on an annual basis. Each local and regional board of education shall maintain a list of the members of the crisis intervention team for each school.
- (p) Each local or regional board of education shall develop policies and procedures that establish monitoring and internal reporting of the use of physical restraint, [and] seclusion and time outs on students and shall make such policies and procedures available on such local or regional board of education's Internet web site and in such local or regional board of education's procedures manual.
- (q) Nothing in this section shall be construed as limiting the justified use of physical force by a local, state or federal law enforcement official while in the performance of such official's duties.
- (r) The State Board of Education shall adopt or revise regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, concerning the use of physical restraint and seclusion pursuant to this section. Not later than sixty days after the adoption or revision of such regulations, each local or regional board of education shall update any applicable policies and

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procedures regarding the physical restraint and seclusion of students and shall make such updated policies and procedures available in a manner consistent with the provisions of subsection (p) of this section.

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(s) Not later than January 1, [2019] 2024, each local or regional board of education shall establish a policy regarding the use of [an exclusionary time out] time outs. Such policy shall include, but need not be limited to, a requirement that (1) [exclusionary] time outs are not to be used as a form of discipline, (2) at least one school employee remain with the student, or be immediately available to the student such that the student and school employee are able to communicate verbally, throughout the [exclusionary] time out, (3) the space used for [an exclusionary] a time out is clean, safe, sanitary and appropriate for the purpose of calming such student or deescalating such student's behavior, (4) the [exclusionary] time out period terminate as soon as possible, and (5) if such student is a child requiring special education, as defined in section 10-76a, or a child being evaluated for special education, pursuant to section 10-76d, as amended by this act, and awaiting a determination, and the interventions or strategies are unsuccessful in addressing such student's problematic behavior, such student's planning and placement team shall convene as soon as is practicable to determine alternative interventions or strategies.

Sec. 7. Section 19a-6u of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

For the fiscal [year] <u>years</u> ending June 30, 2023, <u>to July 1, 2025</u>, <u>inclusive</u>, the Department of Public Health shall administer a school-based health center expansion grant program to provide grants to [certain] operators of school-based health centers for the expansion of school-based health centers and services provided by such centers. [The following operators of school-based health centers shall be eligible for a grant under this section: (1) The operator of a school-based health center for any of the thirty-six recommended sites for expanded mental health services contained in the final report of the School-Based Health Center

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Expansion Working Group, established pursuant to section 16 of public act 21-35, and (2) the operator of a school-based health center for any of the one hundred twenty-four recommended schools for expanded school-based health center medical and mental health services contained in the final report of the School-Based Health Center Expansion Working Group, established pursuant to section 16 of public act 21-35.] The department shall give priority to awarding a grant to those operators of a school-based health center that will provide services after regular school hours. Each such operator shall submit, in collaboration with the local or regional board of education for the school district in which the school-based health center is located, an application for a grant under this section at such time and in such manner as prescribed by the department.

Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) On and after July 1, 2023, the Department of Education shall make available on the department's Internet web site all documents relating to the decisions of a due process hearing required under 34 CFR 300.500 to 300.537, and any corrective actions taken by the department in response to a complaint, pursuant to 34 CFR 300.151 to 300.153, regarding the provision of special education and related services by a local or regional board of education or other entity responsible for the provision of special education and related services to a student. The department shall redact any personally identifiable information of a student prior to making such decisions and documents available.

Sec. 9. Subsection (i) of section 10-76d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1*, 2023):

(i) (1) No local or regional board of education shall discipline, suspend, terminate or otherwise punish any member of a planning and placement team employed by such board who discusses or makes recommendations concerning the provision of special education and related services for a child during a planning and placement team

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meeting for such child.

 (2) No birth-to-three service coordinator or qualified personnel, as those terms are defined in section 17a-248, who discusses or makes recommendations concerning the provision of special education and related services for a child during a planning and placement team meeting for such child or in a transition plan, as required by section 17a-248e, shall be subject to discipline, suspension, termination or other punishment on the basis of such recommendations.

(3) No local or regional board of education shall discipline, suspend, terminate or otherwise punish any school employee, as defined in section 10-222d, who discusses or makes recommendations concerning the provision of services or accommodations for a student as part of a plan pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended from time to time.

sections:		0
Section 1	from passage	New section
Sec. 2	July 1, 2023	10-4w
Sec. 3	from passage	PA 21-95, Sec. 3
Sec. 4	July 1, 2023	10-76d(a)(10)(C)
Sec. 5	July 1, 2023	10-66bb(j)
Sec. 6	July 1, 2023	10-236b
Sec. 7	July 1, 2023	19a-6u
Sec. 8	July 1, 2023	New section
Sec. 9	July 1, 2023	10-76d(i)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following

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